

# lagging 4s



WEDNESDAY NOV. 3, 2004

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## First time's a charm for Kasa

by Jim Manders, publisher

RENO — In the week before competing in his first North American Shuffleboard Championships, Justin Kasa casually asked other players at the Blue Goose Tavern in Port Orchard, Wash. if they thought he had a chance for a top-five finish in the Division II singles tournament.

Early this morning, Kasa got his answer and it was positive as he double-dipped Canada's Tom Parr to earn the championship over a field of 38 other players.

Third place went to Maryland's Rick Greider while Washington's Junelle Schrum finished in fourth. The 2003 Division III singles champ, Ty Banks of Maryland, shared fifth with Don Grossman. Earl Madary, Michigan, and Ted Canada, Arizona tied for seventh.

Sharing ninth were Jim Filkens, Nebraska, Mike Boulanger, Texas, Robert Hurst, Texas and Jonathan Harris, Maryland.

Kasa's march toward the championship was interrupted by Greider who handed him two straight losses in their winner's bracket semi-final match. Parr then dropped Greider in the winner's bracket final.

Dropped into the loser's bracket, Kasa stopped Schrum to set-up a rematch with Greider.

Kasa took control midway through the 21-point game and raced into the championship match.

Kasa seemed to grow stronger as the championship match wore on, winning two straight in the two-of-three portion and then swamp-ing Parr in the 21-point finale.

"I'm not giving him a very good match," a frustrated Parr said at one point of the final game.

Kasa said he felt good that he was able to survive the tough battles of the long day.



*'How do you like that?'* asks Billy Mays as Darrol Nelson rings up a point in their opening round match between two of the games best players during the Open Singles at the NASC Thursday. Nelson won the match and both players finished in the money, but neither won the championship.

Kasa was the only singles champion to be crowned at the end of Tuesday's play, with the rest to be settled this morning.

In the Open Singles, Oklahoma's Bill Melton is the only undefeated player and awaits Bobby Voorhis, Indiana, or Michigan's Steve Auten for the championship match.

Melton downed Voorhis in the winner's bracket final.

Auten downed Oregon's Darroll Nelson and Washington's Rick Gindt to keep his title hopes alive after his Draft Team won that

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# Three singles titles on the line this morning

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event earlier in the week.

Texas' Billy Mays finished in a fifth place tie with Nelson in the 24-player event.

Larry Brown, Indiana, is the lone undefeated player in the Division I Singles after beating Michigan's Scott Auten in the winner's bracket final.

Auten plays J.R. Lopez, Michigan, this morning for the right to meet Brown for the championship.

Fourth place in the 53-player division went to Oregon's Don Stallsworth with Washington's Jim Tribble tying with Maryland's Curtis Dean for fifth. Seventh was a tie between Rick Stocker and Ron Gamble, Oklahoma.

Sharing ninth were David Williams, Jr., Texas, Chris Smith, Texas, Linda Nobles, Texas and Robert Crum, California.

Forty-seven players competed for the Division III Singles crown.

Brandon Glasscock, Oregon, plays Linda Meyer, New York, in the loser's bracket final with the winner going on to meet undefeated Shannon Ratledge, Maryland for the championship. Forty-seven players competed.

Fourth place in the division went to David Dickerson, Nebraska. Marion Briones, Washington, shared fifth place with Joe Fancher, Texas.

Ken Griggs, Canada, and Vern Jensen shared seventh.

Sharing ninth were Anthony Todd, Jr., Del., Melinda Flynn, Michigan, Horst Muszynski, Md., and Timi Kale, Ore.

The A/B Draws are slated for later today with the auction set for 4 p.m.

## NASC schedule

- \* Draw Partners -1.50 to 1.49 ratings.
- \* Draw Partners 1.50 to 5.00 ratings.

### THURSDAY

- \* 4 Person Team. Add to 1.
- \* 4 Person Team. Add to 9.

### FRIDAY

- \* Pro Doubles. Minus 1s may not play together.
- \* Division I Doubles 0.00 to 5.00 ratings.
- \* Division II Doubles 1.50 to 5.00 ratings.
- \* Division III Doubles 2.50 to 5.00 ratings.

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